EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

To: EPA5511 To: EPA9513

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R.BOWDEN To: (EPA9538)

To: **EPA9577** 

From: ERU/REG.V (EPA9577) Delivered: Wed 28-Nov-90 23:59 EST Sys 163

(104)

Subject: AMERICAN POUCH REMOVAL ACTION, CHICAGO, IL, POLREP 1

Mail Id: IPM-163-901128-215950738

DATE: NOVEMBER 27, 1990

FROM: PETER GURIA, OSC-EERB, RSII, CHICAGO, IL.....(EPA9538)

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J.FERG.CITY OF CHICAGO.DEPT OF CONSUMER SERVICES...(US MAIL)

SUBJECT: AMERICAN POUCH, REMOVAL ACTION, CHICAGO, IL D.O.#: 7460-05-164

POLREP: ONE SITE ID: LJ

RESPONSE AUTHORITY: CERCLA

START DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 1990

#### 1. SITUATION:

- A. WEATHER: RAIN AND WINDY, TEMP IN THE 60'S, RAIN EXPECTED.
- B. RESPONSE ACTION INITIATED UNDER VERBAL AUTHORITY GRANTED ON 11-16-90 FROM EERB CHIEF. ACTION MEMO IS IN SIGN OFF.
- C. ABANDONED BUILDING ON CHICAGO'S WEST SIDE. FORMER TENANT MANUFACTURED C-RATIONS FOR THE U.S. ARMY UNITL 1983. THE BUILDING CONTAINED THEIR LABORATORIES FOR QUALITY CONTROL.
- D. ON CCTOBER 28, 1990, THE CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO A FIRE SET BY VANDALS AND FOUND NUMEROUS LABORATORY CHEMICAL CONTAINERS OF ACIDS, BASES, OXIDES, AND DRUMS OF FLAMMABLE SOLVENIS. THE FIRE DEPARIMENT REFERRED THE SITE TO THE CITY OF CHICAGO, CONSUMER SERVICES DEPARTMENT.
- E. RESPONSE SECTION II OF THE EERB WAS CONTACTED ON NOVEMBER 14, 1990, BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION OF THE CONSUMER SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE THE SITUATION. PRELIMINARY RECORDS INDICATED THAT THE BUILDING MAY BE OWNED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.
- F. ON MOVEMBER 15, 1990, AN EMERGENCY SITE ASSESSMENT WAS PERFORMED BY THE OSC AND TAT. ACCESS WAS FOUND TO BE UNRESTRICTED AND CONDITIONS REQUIRED IMMEDIATE ACTION BE TAKEN TO MITIGATE THREATS POSED BY THE LAB CHEMICALS AND DRUMS.

## 2. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. VERBAL NOTIFICATION WAS GIVEN TO SUSPECTED PRP'S ON 11-16. THEY DECLINED TO UNDERTAKE ANY ACTION.
- B. ERCS SUBCONTRACTOR OH, MATERIALS MOBILIZED 11-19.
- C. LAB CHEMICALS INVENTORIED AND STAGED ACCORDING TO CHEMICAL GROUPS. A TOTAL OF 347 HAVE BEEN FOUND.
- D. 30 DRUMS AND 12 BAGS OF SOLID MATERIAL HAVE BEEN STAGED AND SAMPLED FOR CHARACTERIZATION, ONLY 22 DRUMS HAVE CONTENTS.
- E. CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT REP ON-SITE 11-21 TO PROVIDE ESTIMATE FOR ON-SITE COMPATIBILITY, LAB PACKING AND DISPOSAL OF LAB CHEMICALS AND 15 5-GALLON CONTAINERS OF UNKNOWN SOLVENTS AND OILS.
- F. COMPOSITE SAMPLE OF STAINED SOIL COLLECTED FROM AREA WHERE VANDALIZED TRANSFORMER IS LOCATED. SUSPECT PCB OIL.
- G. SAMPLES SET TO LABORATORY ON 11-27. COMPATIBILITY RESULTS EXPECTED WITHIN ONE WEEK. SOIL SAMPLE RESULTS EXPECTED WEEK OF 12-3.
- H. 12 DISPOSABLE FREON AND ONE ACTIVLENE GAS CYLINDERS FOUND.
  ONLY THE ACTIVLENE CYLINDER APPEARS TO CONTAIN MATERIAL.

### 3. PLANS:

- A. OVERPACK AND SECURE ALL DRUMS AND BAGS OF SOLID MATERIAL.
- B. EMPTY DRUMS AND DISPOSABLE GAS CYLINDERS WILL BE CRUSHED AND SECURED INTO 20 CUBIC YARD ROLLOFF BOX. MATERIAL TO BE MANIFESTED OFF-SITE AS NONHAZARDOUS SCRAP.
- C. CHEM WASTE MANAGEMENT TO BE ON-SITE WEEK OF 12-3 TO CONDUCT COMPATIBILITY ANALYSIS AND LAB PACK CHEMICAL AND 5-GAL CONTAINERS. CWM WILL TRANSPORT LAB PACKS TO THEIR SAUGET, IL INCINERATION FACILITY FOR DISPOSAL.
- D. AWAITING ANALYTICAL RESULTS OF DRUM, SOLID, AND SOIL SAMPLES. COMPATIBILITY RESULTS EXPECTED WEEK OF 12-10. DISPOSAL PARAMETERS OF COMPOSITE GROUPS DEVELOPED FROM COMPATIBILITY RESULTS ARE NOT EXPECTED FOR 3-4 WEEKS.
- E. COORDINATE DISPOSAL OF DRUMS AND SOLID MATERIAL WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL FACILITIES UPON RECEIPT OF ANALYTICAL RESULTS.

## 4. KEY ISSUES:

- A. REMOVAL ACTION IS ONLY EXPECTED TO TAKE 10 DAYS FOR ON-SITE ACTIVITY. NO OFFICE TRAILER OR PERMANENT PHONE ON SITE.

  ARMED GUARD SERVICE REQUIRED FOR AFTER HOUR SECURITY.
- B. LACK OF CONSISTENT TAT SUPPORT CONTINUES DUE TO CONTRACT SWITCH OVER. E&E DOES NOT HAVE SUITABLE SAFETY PLANS OR PAPERWORK TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE CONTRACTOR OVERSIGHT AT THIS TIME.

# 5 STATUS:

A. CASE OPEN

B. ESTIMATED COSTS AS OF 11-27-90

	PROJECT CEILING	11-27-90	TO DATE
ERCS	\$ 50,000.00	\$18,655.00	0.00
TAT	0,000.00	0.00	0.00
EPA DIR	0,000.00	0.00	0.00
EPA INDIR	0,000.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	\$ 0,000.00	\$18,655.00	\$ 0,000.00